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Fax Notes:

Attached are proposed amendments to improve clarity of the claims and to try to put the case into condition for allowance. Please let me know by Friday (12pm eastern time zone), September 25, 2009 whether an examiner's amendment may be done.

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Proposed Draft:

In specification paragraph 0069:

One embodiment includes a computer program product which is a storage medium (media) having instructions stored thereon/in which can be used to program a computer to perform any of the features presented herein. The storage medium can include, but is not limited to, any type of disk including floppy disks, optical discs, DVD, CD-ROMs, microdrive, and magneto-optical disks, ROMs, RAMs, EPROMs, EEPROMs, DRAMs, VRAMs, flash memory devices, ~~magnetic or optical cards~~, nanosystems (including molecular memory integrated circuits ICs), or any type of media ~~or device~~ suitable for storing instructions and/or data.

In Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage media having stored thereon computer instructions for a computer-based extendable application framework that when executed by a processor cause the instructions to provide:

a user interface;

a plurality of services, wherein a service includes a public interface that has an implementation and provides access to functionality in an extension of a plurality of extensions;

said ~~[[a]]~~ plurality of extensions to extend an application, wherein the plurality of extensions provide functionality accessible in the user interface, wherein ~~[[an]]~~ each extension in the plurality of extensions include~~[[s;]]~~;

a set of classes defined in an object-oriented programming language,
[[and]]
an XML (Extensible Markup Language) description,
wherein the XML description is scanned for code fragments that are
contained within an XML tag and are to be passed to handlers defined for
a particular ID attribute at runtime to batch together XML descriptions from
other extensions of the plurality of extensions and ensure services
requested by the XML description are available[[:]], [[and]]
an optional set of resources[[:]], and
wherein the extension[[:s]] of the plurality of extensions defines handlers
for the XML tag found in the XML description;
wherein each one of the plurality of services is associated with an extension in
the plurality of extensions;
wherein one of the plurality of extensions exposes and consumes services
associated with another extension in the plurality of extensions, wherein the exposed
and consumed services are consumed by the set of classes;
wherein one of the plurality of extensions provides functionality accessible in the
user interface;
wherein one of the plurality of services provides access to functionality in one of
the plurality of extensions; and

wherein the XML description comprises a root element comprising one or more children elements that each ~~[[may]]~~ describe a different type of extension.

2. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage media of claim 1 wherein: one of the plurality of extensions utilizes one of the plurality of services.

3. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage media of claim 1 wherein: ~~[[a first]]~~ each extension of the plurality of extensions is an interchangeable application building block.

4-6. (Cancelled).

7. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage media of claim 1 wherein: a first extension of the plurality of extensions provides functionality to support at least one of: 1) a document type; 2) a user interface action; 3) a file encoding; 4) property settings; and 5) debugging information.

8. (Currently Amended) A computer-based method for configuring an application in a computer-based extendable application framework, comprising the steps of:

providing a user interface at a computer to allow user interaction with the application;

providing a plurality of extensions at the computer to extend the application,
wherein each extension of the plurality of extensions include:

a set of classes defined in an object-oriented programming language;
and

an XML (Extensible Markup Language) description,

wherein the XML description is scanned for code fragments that are
contained within a XML tag and are to be passed to handlers defined for a
particular ID attribute at runtime to batch together XML descriptions from
other extensions in the plurality of extensions and ensure services
requested by the XML description are available; and

an optional set of resources; and

wherein the extension of the plurality of extensions defines handlers
for the XML tag found in the XML description;

wherein the providing of the plurality of extensions permits one of the plurality of
extensions to provide functionality accessible in the user interface; and

providing a plurality of services wherein the providing the plurality of services
permits one of the plurality of services to provide access to functionality in one of the
plurality of extensions;

wherein each service of the plurality of services include a public interface
that has an implementation and provides access to functionality in an extension;

wherein each one of the plurality of services is associated with an extension in
the plurality of extensions;

wherein one of the plurality of extensions exposes and consumes services associated with another extension in the plurality of extensions, wherein the exposed and consumed services are consumed by the set of classes; and

wherein the XML description comprises a root element comprising one or more children elements that [[may]] each describe a different type of extension.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8 wherein: one of the plurality of extensions utilizes one of the plurality of services.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8 wherein: [[an]] each extension of the plurality of extensions is an interchangeable application building block.

11. (cancelled)

12-13. (Cancelled).

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8 wherein: an extension of the plurality of extensions provides functionality to support at least one of: 1) a document type; 2) a user interface action; 3) a file encoding; 4) property settings; and 5) debugging information.

15. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon computer instructions for a computer-based extendable application framework system that when executed by a processor cause [[a]]instructions for the system to:

provide a user interface to allow user interaction with an application;

provide a plurality of extensions to extend the application, wherein the plurality of extensions provide functionality accessible in the user interface, wherein [[an]] each extension of the plurality of extensions includes:

a set of classes defined in an object-oriented programming language, and
an XML (Extensible Markup Language) description,

wherein the XML description is scanned for code fragments that are contained within an XML tag and are to be passed to handlers defined for a particular ID attribute at runtime to batch together XML descriptions from other extensions in the plurality of extensions and ensure services requested by the XML description are available and [[wherein the providing permits one of the plurality of extensions to provide functionality accessible in the user interface;]], and

an optional set of resources^{[[;]]}, and

wherein the extension^{[[s]]} of the plurality of extensions defines handlers for the XML tag found in the XML description;

wherein the providing of the plurality of extensions permits one of the plurality of extensions to provide functionality accessible in the user interface;

provide a plurality of services wherein the providing of the plurality of services permits one of the plurality of services to provide access to functionality in one of the plurality of extensions;

wherein [[a]]each service of the plurality of services includes a public interface that has an implementation and provides access to functionality in an extension of the plurality of extensions;

wherein each one of the plurality of services is associated with an extension in the plurality of extensions;

wherein one of the plurality of extensions exposes and consumes services associated with another extension in the plurality of extensions, wherein the exposed and consumed services are consumed by the set of classes; and

wherein the XML description comprises a root element comprising one or more children elements that each [[may]] describe a different type of extension.

16. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 15

wherein:

one of the plurality of extensions utilizes one of the plurality of services.

17. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 15

wherein:

[[an]] each extension of the plurality of extensions is an interchangeable application

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building block.

18-20. (Cancelled).

21. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium of claim 15 wherein:
an extension of the plurality of extensions provides functionality to support at least one
of: 1) a document type; 2) a user interface action; 3) a file encoding; 4) property settings;
and 5) debugging information.

22-28. (Cancelled).

29. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage media of claim 1, wherein the
plurality of services includes at least one of:

- a resource service to provide access to a set of resources;

- a frame service to allow extensions of the plurality of extensions to specify a
graphical user interface (GUI) docking layout;

- a file service to provide a set of services for file system access and manipulation;

- a server service to provide a set of services for accessing a server;

- a document service to supply an abstract document interface for files that are
part of an application project; and

- an action service to provide methods for adding and manipulating menu and
toolbar items.

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the plurality of services includes at least one of:

- a resource service to provide access to a set of resources;
- a frame service to allow extensions of the plurality of extensions to specify a graphical user interface (GUI) docking layout;
- a file service to provide a set of services for file system access and manipulation;
- a server service to provide a set of services for accessing a server;
- a document service to supply an abstract document interface for files that are part of an application project; and
- an action service to provide methods for adding and manipulating menu and toolbar items.

31. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium of claim 15, wherein the plurality of services includes at least one of:

- a resource service to provide access to a set of resources;
- a frame service to allow extensions of the plurality of extensions to specify a graphical user interface (GUI) docking layout;
- a file service to provide a set of services for file system access and manipulation;
- a server service to provide a set of services for accessing a server;
- a document service to supply an abstract document interface for files that are part of an application project; and

an action service to provide methods for adding and manipulating menu and toolbar items.

32. (cancelled)

33. (cancelled)

34. (cancelled)